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20 MS. TREICHEL: My name is Judy Treichel. I'm
21 the executive director of the Nevada Nuclear Waste Task Force.

22 The Task Force will also be submitting written
23 comments after enough time allows to completely go through the
24 document.

25 I'm speaking now as a Nevada citizen who attended

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EIS000075

1 this meeting and would like to make a few comments in the
2 context of what has gone on here.

3 There's -- there's been some talk about what NEPA
4 is all about, what EIS's are all about, and that's a process in
5 this country for whenever a major action that could affect the
6 environment is about to be undertaken or is proposed to be
7 undertaken.

8 There has never been an action anywhere near
9 equivalent to the installation of a high-level nuclear waste
10 repository in a particular area in this country, and by the
11 way, an area which opposes it.

12 This is a forced siting and this EIS that's being
13 written to support that action and it is an irreversible action
14 and it is an eternal action that goes on for a longer time than
15 time can actual really be calculated.

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16 So when an EIS is done under the terms of NEPA,
17 it is to show how that action will improve the situation,
18 either solve a problem or make life better for people, but
19 improve the situation that now exists.

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20 We have not only an eternal action be proposed,
21 but a project which is being done for the benefit of profit-
22 making corporations and will in no way improve, but could for
23 all time very seriously threaten the environment of the people
24 in this area.

25 In the document as Wendy described, under the

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1 Waste Policy Act, it says that DOE need not consider, and then
2 it listed those four things.

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3 It did not say it will not be allowed to
4 consider, but it said need not, and it seems to me with the
5 sort of project that we're talking here that they should have
6 chosen to consider.

7 This was optional, and everything should have
8 been considered for the project like this.

9 It also said that -- that this EIS -- and we have
10 been complaining. People here in Nevada have been complaining
11 for years since this whole process started.

12 While we were going through the scoping for this
13 EIS, we were telling DOE this is the project that is not
14 EISable in the way that you are proposing it.

15 We don't know what we're commenting on it we
16 don't know what we're scoping and we still don't.

17 It was stated on the view graph that this EIS
18 evaluates the current preliminary design. Well, it really
19 doesn't.

4

20 Recent meetings have shown that the design is
21 very flexible, that the design is changing. The design is
22 under -- going under a lot of changes, so people are evaluating
23 something that is not -- has no intention of happening.

24 They also mention in the EIS, and we're well
25 aware, that there are ongoing studies, that there are tests

1 that will not be done for years.

2 Those things we assume will be incorporated into
3 the decisions that are made, so people are wasting their time.
4 They're talking about should this waste be mostly canistered or
5 uncanistered.

6 The people in Amargosa Valley and the rest of
7 Nevada and the rest of the country really can't make that
8 decision.

9 As was stated, there are some places that don't
10 have any rail access. Supposing we said all of this
11 transportation must be done by rail. It's not possible.

12 It's also not possible to determine whether or
13 not waste should be canistered, uncanistered or all kinds of
14 things.

15 Those are outside of people's ability to make
16 those decisions and you are putting people through an exercise
17 and wasting our time.

18 The issue of curies came up. How much is going
19 into that repository? It's very difficult to tell given the
20 EIS that came up, but it's very important.

21 And prior to the justification for how -- how
22 difficult it is and that's justified was the fact that they
23 were using TSPA information, sensitivity information.

24 Well, the TSPA may not in fact give us an
25 adequate or a true measure of how this thing will perform.

5

6

1 We've got to know what's in there because we've got to know 6
2 what you found.

3 Another place where time is being wasted is on
4 the -- the transportation section of this -- of this whole
5 document.

6 Transportation -- if -- if that project is 7
7 proposed for here, there should be a design, one design that's
8 intended to be built, the same design that would be used for a
9 site recommendation, the same design that would have to get
10 licensed and the transportation routes should be clearly
11 stated.

12 Whether it's truck, whether it's train, whether 8
13 it's a combination of both, people need to know what it is that
14 they are evaluating.

15 And finally, people live in Amargosa Valley and
16 rural Nevada, rural towns throughout this country for very good
17 and valid reasons.

18 Part of the reason for living here is because
19 it's an excellent farming community. It has good, clean,
20 affordable water.

21 That is incredibly valuable thing, and in
22 particular, I'm originally from Minnesota. Water was valuable
23 there, but not like the intermountain west. That is an
24 extremely valuable attribute to this area.

25 And they grow good crops and they're expanding

1 and so forth.

2 Another reason that people live in small towns is
3 because you get a lot more self-determination than you do when
4 you live in a larger city in this country or in other places.

5 You go to your town hall meeting, you make a lot
6 of your own decisions. Your voice really counts, and suddenly
7 forced on the people, as stated earlier, a project that will
8 actually wind up partially residing in this town comes over the
9 top of people who oppose the project.

10 Something is very wrong here and I don't know how
11 an Environmental Impact Statement can find this project to be a
12 valid or a wise way to go.

13 Thank you.

14 MS. DIXON: Thank you very much.

15 MR. BROWN: Thank you.

16 Okay. Jann Rucquoi.